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Amendments to the Specification:

Before line 1, page 1, please insert "TITLE OF THE INVENTION**"**

Please amend the first full paragraph starting on page 1, as follows:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the design and reusability of software components and, more particularly, to a software architecture incorporating components susceptible to be reused. The present invention relates also to a method of producing a new module-based software architecture based on an existing one.

Please amend paragraph starting on page 1, line 5 as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

It has become common to generate new software not by writing a program from scratch but by altering, or reusing components of, existing programs. However, given that modules in a software architecture interact with each other, the removal or replacement of a module in an existing program can have very significant impact on the remainder of the architecture. More specifically, since modules that call another module (for example, a procedure) store the reference of the module to be called, changes in the program can make the stored references obsolete.

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Please amend paragraph starting on page 2, line 7 as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a software architecture enabling even low level components thereof to be modified (for example, removed or replaced) with reduced impact on the other components of the architecture.

Please amend paragraph starting on page 3, line 14 as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention and additional features, which may be optionally used to implement the invention to advantage, are apparent from and elucidated with reference to the drawings described hereinafter.

Please amend paragraph starting on page 4, line 3 as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

First some remarks will be made on the use of reference signs. Similar entities are denoted by an identical letter code throughout the drawings. Various similar entities may be shown in a single drawing. In that case, a numeral is added to the letter code so as to distinguish similar entities from each other. Notably, modules are designated "Mx", where x is a number identifying each module, and the reference of a module is designated by use of the "&" symbol. Thus, the reference of module Mx is written "&Mx". In the description and claims, any numeral in a reference sign may be omitted if appropriate.